

acid or a unit derived from 1,4-cyclohexanedimethanol in a total amount ranging from 0.5 to 10% by weight of the crystalline aromatic polyester resin.

3. (Amended) The prepuff of claim 1, further comprising a polytetrafluoroethylene resin in an amount ranging from 0.005 to 0.1 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the crystalline aromatic polyester resin.

4. (Amended) The prepuff of claim 1, obtainable by cutting a roamed extrudate.

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5. (Amended) The prepuff of claim 4, having a generally cylindrical shape, and a predetermined length, the foamed extrudate having a strand shape.

6. (Amended) The prepuff of claim 5, wherein the melt tension of the crystalline aromatic polyester resin is in the range of from 0.7 to 3.0g in the presence of a melt tension modifier.

7. (Amended) The prepuff of claim 6, wherein an open cell ratio is in the range of from 5 to 35%.

8. (Amended) The prepuff of claim 4, having the bulk density adjusted by impregnating the prepuff with a gas under pressure at least once and re-expanding the prepuff prior to molding.

9. (Amended) The prepuff of claim 1, having a crystallinity in the range of from 1 to 8%.

10. (Amended) A molded foam article, obtainable by filling <sup>what's</sup> a mold cavity <sup>formed</sup> by closing male and female mold members of a mold with the prepuff of claim 1, and heating to further expand and fuse the prepuff in the mold cavity. <sup>6° by P</sup>

11. (Amended) The molded foam article of claim 10, having an apparent density in the range of from 0.01 to 1.0g/cm<sup>3</sup> and a fusion ratio not less than 40%.

12. (Amended) A laminated molded foam article, comprising the molded foam article of claim 10 and a film or sheet of an aromatic polyester resin on the article. <sup>structure</sup>

13. (Amended) The laminated article of claim 12, wherein a peel strength of the film or sheet from the molded foam article is not less than 5 N/23 mm.

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14. (Amended) The laminated article of claim 12, produced by placing a film or sheet at least in a male mold member and/or a in a female mold member of a mold, closing the male and female mold members, filling the mold cavity with the crystalline aromatic polyester resin prepuff of claim 1 and heating, thereby molding and laminating in one step.

location  
of  
film?  
p-by-p

Please add new claims 15-20, as follows:

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15. (New) The prepuff of claim 2, further comprising a polytetrafluoroethylene resin in an amount ranging from 0.005 to 0.1 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the prepuff, wherein the prepuff is obtainable by cutting a strand shaped foamed extricate into generally cylindrical shapes.

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16. (New) The prepuff of claim 15, wherein the melt tension of the crystalline aromatic polyester resin is in the range of from 0.7 to 3.0g in the presence of a melt tension modifier, and the open cell ratio is in the range of from 5 to 35%.

17. (New) The prepuff of claim 16, having a bulk density adjusted by pressure at least once and re-expanding the prepuff

prior to molding and a crystallinity in the range of from 1 to 8%.

18. (New) A molded foam article, obtainable by filling a mold cavity formed by closing male and female mold members of a mold with the prepuff of claim 17, and heating to further expand and fuse the prepuff in the mold cavity.

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19. (New) The article of claim 18, having an apparent density in the range of from 0.01 to 1.0g/cm<sup>3</sup> and a fusion ratio not less than 40%.

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20. (New) The article of claim 13 produced by placing a film or sheet at least in a male mold member and/or in a female mold member of a mold, closing the male and female mold members, filling the mold cavity with the crystalline aromatic polyester resin prepuff of claim 1 and heating, thereby molding and laminating in one step.

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**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are presently pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 3, 4, 9, 12, and 14 are amended to eliminate multiple dependency. Claim scope remains unchanged and no new matter is contained in the amendments.